

**To:** james\_peterson@feinstein.senate.gov[james\_peterson@feinstein.senate.gov]  
**Bcc:** Maier, Brent[Maier.Brent@epa.gov]  
**From:** Maier, Brent  
**Sent:** Fri 8/14/2015 7:28:22 PM  
**Subject:** EPA Follow Up Call to Discuss Iron Mountain Mine and EPA Administrator's Statement Regarding Ongoing Field Work at Mines

James –

I sent you a separate calendar invite and also wanted to send this e-mail to offer a potential call this afternoon at **2:30pm PT (5:30pm ET)** to follow up on your Iron Mountain Mine inquiry and the Administrator's statement with our Remedial Project Manager, Lily Tavassoli and John Lyons, Assistant Director in our Superfund Division. We can also discuss your earlier inquiry regarding the EPA Administrator's statement in the aftermath of the Gold King Mine release.

**If this time works, please confirm.** I have set up a conference line for us to use for this discussion and am providing both the call-in number and access code to join the call.

**Dial-In Number:**  Nonresponsive Conference Code

**Conference Code:**  Nonresponsive Conference Code

**Leader PIN:**  for use only by Brent Maier to initiate the call)

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**Subject:** Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines

**Contact:**

[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov) or 970-812-3351

**SUBJECT: Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE:  
ongoing field work at mines**

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy today sent the below directive to Regional Administrators regarding ongoing field work at mines:

*While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions.*

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